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the people of Cuba is perhaps one of the best examples we have of the efficacy of vaccination. In 1896 and in 1897 there were over one thousand deaths each year from smallpox in the City of Havana alone. With the beginning of American occupation of the island vaccination was enforced; children were compelled to be vaccinated as were also all persons who could not produce satisfactory evidence of previous inoculation. The beneficent effect of this procedure was observed almost at once. Between 1901 and 1917 there was only one death from smallpox in the City of Havana. In Japan a similar condition was observed. Before vaccination was effectively carried out, Japan had thousands of cases and deaths each year. Epidemics of the disease were especially severe. In 1909 a law was passed requiring vaccination of each infant within three months after birth. This measure alone apparently had the effect of greatly reducing the number of cases and deaths. There have been no serious epidemics from smallpox in Japan since vaccination was generally introduced.

Sanitary statistics also show that in the United States and Canada there are no centers of smallpox infection where vaccination has been thoroughly tried out and that no epidemics have commenced in these protected centers. On the other hand, in cities where there is great laxity in the enforcement of vaccination laws, or where there are no laws to be enforced, many cases occur each year. In the Province of Ontario where there has been persistent opposition to vaccination, a very severe outbreak occurred early this year and the United States sanitary authorities declared a quarantine on all travelers from that province into the United States.

It is hoped that members of the Association will interest themselves in the collection of the facts concerning smallpox and vaccination and that they will present this evidence forcefully to their communities. Smallpox will be a serious menace to the health of the people of the United States during the winter of 1920-21. There has been a world-wide increase in the number of smallpox cases. At the port of New York several steamers entering the harbor in the summer and early autumn have been quarantined because of the presence of smallpox on board. It should be recalled that during the war people from all parts of the globe were brought together in large numbers and some came from countries where there is always more or less smallpox. The lack of adequate medical and sanitary service in all of the fighting countries of Europe, the unfavorable living conditions arising out of the war, and the marked falling off of universal vaccination have resulted in an increased prevalence of the disease. At the present time smallpox is a real menace to the health and welfare of the people of the United States and Canada. Members of the Association should do everything in their power to bring the facts of the problem to the attention of their health and educational authorities.

LOUIS I. DUBLIN.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

**The New York City Census Committee.** This Committee was formed by resolution of a meeting of representatives of sixty municipal departments and social agencies held at the New York Academy of Medicine, October 2, 1919. It was incorporated "to secure speedy and special tabulation and publication of the Census of New York City, taken as of January 1, 1920, by sanitary districts." Dr. Haven Emerson, former Health Commissioner of New York City, is Chairman of the Committee and Dr. Walter Laidlaw, of the New York Federation of Churches, is its Executive Secretary. The city has been mapped, permanently, into over 3,000 districts, and the Census of 1920 was taken in such a manner as to permit the population of each of these areas to be handled separately and to be grouped into larger areas for specific pur-

poses, as required for educational, health, business, and social needs. The Federal Census Bureau publishes detailed results for assembly districts only, which are political areas, unsuited for other purposes. It is the purpose of this Committee to secure the population data for the small areas and to arrange and publish the results for such groupings as seem most useful. City authorities and others questioned the accuracy of the Federal Census Bureau's count of population in January, 1920, which fell far short of estimates previously made, especially in the case of the Borough of Manhattan which was shown to have actually declined in population. The New York Census Committee appointed the following sub-committee to gather and review available evidence bearing upon the accuracy of the enumeration: Kate H. Claghorn, New York School of Social Work; Frederick B. DeBerard, The Merchants' Association; Louis I. Dublin, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; Raymond B. Fosdick, New York Federation of Churches; Adna F. Weber, Public Service Commission; Robert E. Chaddock, Chairman, Columbia University. Various lines of inquiry were pursued by this special Committee, and a report was submitted covering the evidence from the growth of transportation facilities, vital statistics, school population, immigration, dwellings, and voting population. Agreement was reached that "the preponderance of evidence seems to indicate that the count was probably as accurate as previous census counts and that the results are not enough in error to invalidate the census." Therefore, in the light of the Committee's findings it would be an unnecessary and unwarranted expense for the city to undertake a recensus of the city or of Manhattan borough.

**Foreign Trade Index of the Federal Reserve Board.** The need of an analysis of our post-war foreign trade figures has been generally felt for some time past. In order to determine as far as possible the extent to which the increase in our import and export values has been due to price increase, and to furnish certain further analysis of our imports and exports as compared with the year 1913, the Division of Analyses and Research of the Federal Reserve Board has undertaken to prepare and publish monthly what it terms its "Foreign Trade Index," publication having begun in the July *Federal Reserve Bulletin*. The commodities included in this index were chosen largely with the view to practicability of obtaining those goods for which 1913 prices could be had, at the same time, of course, maintaining such a selection as would give a well-balanced sample of our foreign trade. The list of imports included represent 47.7 per cent of the value of imports for 1913, and the commodities of export represent 56.3 per cent of the total export values. The commodities both of import and export are classified as to raw materials, producers' goods, and consumers' goods. The monthly value of the imports of each of these classes and the grand total of all imports and exports included are computed on the average 1913 monthly prices, an index number of such values being then computed on the monthly average of such values for the year 1913. A number of interesting facts relative to changes which have taken place in our foreign trade and to the extent to which we are returning to pre-war conditions as judged by 1913 are revealed by these figures as published monthly in the *Federal Reserve Bulletin*. Perhaps the outstanding feature of the table is the fact that when the influence of fluctuating prices is removed a very decided tendency is shown for our imports to increase, while at the same time our exports have increased in very much lower proportion. During the more recent months, it is true, there is a tendency for both imports and exports to decline. However, this movement is much more marked in exports than in imports. There has been a notable falling off of our exports of raw materials. The value of our exports of these

commodities in 1919, if computed at 1913 prices, were about 11 per cent less than in 1913. The figures as published for each month of the current year up to and including August show no tendency toward a return to our pre-war position. On the other hand, our exports of producers' and consumers' goods show a large increase in 1919 as compared with 1913, even when 1913 prices are used. Only in the month of August is there seen any indication of decline in the exports of these goods. With regard to the import situation, it is found that a large increase has occurred in the case of all classes of commodities, the most notable being in producers' goods. And only in the case of raw materials was there any decided tendency toward a decline during the first eight months of 1920. In fact our imports of producers' goods reached their highest levels during January and February of the present year.

**Statistical Work in the United States Public Health Service.** The statistical work of several divisions of the United States Public Health Service recently has been consolidated into one office. In 1916 a statistical office was established in South Carolina in connection with field studies of the incidence of pellagra in relation to dietary and economic factors, with Mr. Edgar Sydenstricker in immediate charge of the statistical phases of the pellagra studies. In 1917 the studies were considerably extended in their scope and Dr. Willfred I. King became associated in the work, continuing until 1920. When the pandemic of influenza occurred in 1918, certain epidemiological and statistical studies were begun under the supervision of Mr. Sydenstricker and Dr. Wade H. Frost, and the statistical office, established for this purpose in Washington, developed into a general statistical office for the Scientific Research Division of the Public Health Service. Statistical studies were also inaugurated in connection with the work of the Service in industrial hygiene, child hygiene, venereal diseases, morbidity among industrial wage-earners, and morbidity reporting, and in the Hospital Division in which was centered the administration of marine hospitals and hospitals for the care of disabled soldiers and sailors. In 1920 all of the statistical work in connection with these activities was placed under a single supervising head and the various offices, with their personnel, tabulating, computing, and other equipment were housed in the same building in Washington. The statistical staff at present consists of Mr. Edgar Sydenstricker, Statistician, in general charge; Dr. F. M. Phillips, Associate Statistician, industrial hygiene; Mr. Maurice Leven, Assistant Statistician, hospital statistics; Mr. Dean K. Brundage, Assistant Statistician, industrial morbidity; Mr. Selwyn Collins, Assistant Statistician, child hygiene; Miss Mary L. King, tuberculosis; Miss Dorothy Wiehl, pellagra; Miss Mary H. Loudon, influenza; and a clerical force. Associated with this staff are Professor Raymond Pearl, of Johns Hopkins University, and Professor Willfred I. King, as consultants, and Drs. Frost, Goldberger, and others in the Public Health Service.

**Health Work in American Cities.** There is little definite knowledge of the amount and character of the health and vital statistics work which is carried on even in the larger cities of the United States and Canada. Little is known concerning the amount of money expended, the personnel, the various activities that are undertaken, the particular methods of procedure followed, the results that are obtained under the various systems, and new work that is planned. The American Public Health Association, recognizing the great value to the country at large of an accurate knowledge of municipal health department procedure, has appointed a committee composed of Prof. C. E. A. Winslow, Chairman, Dr. Charles V. Chapin, Dr. Wade H. Frost, Dr. Donald B. Armstrong, Dr. Allen W. Freeman, and Dr. Louis I. Dublin, Secretary,

to investigate and report on this subject. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has placed at the disposal of the Association a sum of \$5,000 with which to carry out this piece of work. The Committee has surveyed six of the Pacific Coast cities and in a few weeks will have surveyed six of the eastern cities. With the experience thus gained a final revision of the questionnaire is to be prepared. The health officers already visited have shown a great deal of interest in the questionnaire and have gladly answered the list of questions, realizing that the completed report, based upon a careful statistical study of the questionnaires, will be of value in making available to health officers throughout the country the methods in use in other cities. It is felt that the final report will make for greater uniformity in health department practice and will stimulate the introduction of new activities.

**International Conference on Causes of Death.** The Third Decennial Conference for the purpose of revising the International Classification of Causes of Death and Sickness was held at Paris during the week beginning October 11. Forty countries were represented. A number of important changes in the classification were made as a result of the deliberations of the Conference. Many of them were made at the instance of the American delegation. In fact, the great majority of the changes and improvements recommended by the American Public Health Association Committee on the Accuracy of Certified Causes of Death were adopted. These suggestions may be found in Reprint No. 440 of the *Reports of the United States Public Health Service*. The delegation from Great Britain, which had also given much study to this subject, made many suggestions which were in agreement with those of the American delegation. Among the most important of the changes in the classification of diseases was the transfer of acute poliomyelitis and meningococcic meningitis from the class of Diseases of the Nervous System to a new class to be known as Epidemic, Endemic, and Infectious Diseases. The Commission also provided for the tabulation of lethargic encephalitis as one of the diseases under the same class. The American delegation was as follows: Dr. Herman M. Biggs, Commissioner of Health of the state of New York; Dr. Rupert Blue, United States Public Health Service; Dr. William H. Davis, Chief Statistician for Vital Statistics, United States Census Bureau; Dr. Haven Emerson, Chairman, Committee on the Accuracy of Certified Causes of Death, A. P. H. A.; Dr. William H. Guilfoxy, Registrar of Records, New York City; Dr. F. J. Monaghan, Deputy Commissioner of Health, New York City; Colonel Henry A. Shaw, Medical Department, United States Army; Mr. George H. Van Buren, Supervisor of the Statistical Bureau, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Mr. Van Buren attended the Conference as the representative of the American Statistical Association. Dr. Emerson and Mr. Van Buren were the delegates of the American Public Health Association.

**Industrial Studies of the Russell Sage Foundation.** The Russell Sage Foundation in its Department of Industrial Studies is making a series of investigations of industrial relations, particularly the methods of securing representation of employees. Three studies in the coal industry are now in preparation. These studies have included an inquiry into a plan for representation which is limited to the mines of one company, a study of methods of collective bargaining of the United Mine Workers in the central competitive field, and an analysis of the problems of management which are reflected in the grievances of the miners. Another inquiry in progress deals with the works council of the Rock Island Arsenal. The data gathered have not been primarily statistical, but several interesting statistical problems emerge which relate

not so much to the treatment of material as to the lack of basic data. For instance, we are left in the dark about so vital a subject as the normal number of tons of coal dug by a miner in a day, because although official reports show tons produced and numbers employed, it is impossible in an employment so intermittent as coal mining to derive from this the facts about individual output. In short, the problem is to find the method of measuring "unemployment within employment"—the loss of time within a day even when the mine is in operation and the worker is in attendance. The effect on the earnings of piece workers is obvious. Accurate methods of measuring it would greatly clarify negotiations for new wage scales and would point the way, too, toward possible improvements in management. The difficulty in securing basic data is of course not confined to the coal industry. It suggests the importance of more continuous attention by statisticians to the devising of practical records for current use in industry, which shall reveal the information needed in industrial relations. The investigators who have taken part in these studies are Ben M. Selekman, Edwin S. Smith, Hugh Archbald, and Louis Bloch.

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The United States Railroad Labor Board is engaged in working out a comprehensive classification of railroad employees. *Report No. 1 of the Wage Series*, published by the Board, shows the average daily and monthly wage rates of railroad employees on class No. 1 carriers. It is hoped that the classification which the Board is now working on will provide suitable forms upon which roads will report wage data to the Board, and will establish a basis for satisfactory wage statistics for railroad employees. This classification will be ready for adoption by the roads about January 1, 1921.

The National Research Council, with headquarters at Washington, has elected the following chairman of its various divisions for the year beginning July 1, 1920: Division of Foreign Relations, George E. Hale, Director, Mt. Wilson Observatory, Carnegie Institution of Washington; Government Division, Charles D. Walcott, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and President of the National Academy of Sciences; Division of States Relations, John C. Merriam, Professor of Palaeontology, University of California and President-elect of the Carnegie Institution of Washington; Division of Educational Relations, Vernon Kellogg, Professor of Entomology, Stanford University and Permanent Secretary of the National Research Council; Division of Industrial Relations, Harrison E. Howe; Research Information Service, Robert M. Yerkes; Division of Physical Sciences, Augustus Trowbridge, Professor of Physics, Princeton University; Division of Engineering, Comfort A. Adams, Lawrence Professor of Engineering, Harvard University; Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, Frederick G. Cottrell, Director of the Bureau of Mines; Division of Geology and Geography, E. B. Mathews, Professor of Mineralogy and Petrography, Johns Hopkins University; Division of Medical Sciences, George W. McCoy, Director of the U. S. Hygienic Laboratory since 1915; Division of Biology and Agriculture, C. E. McClung, Professor of Zoölogy, University of Pennsylvania; and Division of Anthropology and Psychology, Clark Wissler, Curator of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Dr. G. B. Roorbach, Professor of Foreign Trade, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, was sent by the Boston Chamber of Commerce as a delegate to the organization meeting of the International Chamber of Commerce recently held in Paris. The International Chamber adopted a resolution presented by Dr. Roorbach, stating that "The International Chamber urges that the agencies charged with the collection of commercial statistics take immediate steps to secure a greater degree

of international uniformity in the classification of statistics and the methods of determining the value and the quantity units used in according them." The new method of classifying the exports and imports of this country, which is to be put in effect on January 1, makes this topic of considerable interest at this time.

Mr. Franz Schneider, Jr., has resigned his position as Assistant and Acting Manager of the Research Department of the American International Corporation to become the Financial Editor of the *New York Evening Post*.

Mr. Seldon O. Martin, Manager of the Research Department of the American International Corporation, has spent the last few months in Europe studying the economic situation with special reference to our future trade there. He visited England, France, Italy, Spain, Central Europe, and Scandinavia.

Mr. Mervin E. Lyle, who for some years has been connected with the Columbia Graphophone Company, is now associated with Mr. Willard C. Brinton, President of the Terminal Engineering Company.

Dr. C. J. West has recently accepted a position in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., as Specialist in Charge of the Division of Marketing Statistics, Bureau of Markets.

Miss Mignonette Uhl, who has been doing statistical and actuarial work at the University of Michigan, is now connected with the Statistical Department of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Dr. Leonard W. Hatch, who has been Chief Statistician of the Bureau of Statistics in the New York State Industrial Commission, has just resigned to become Manager of the New York State Insurance Fund. Dr. Hatch's place has been filled by the appointment of Dr. Eugene B. Patton who has been Chief of the Division of Special Investigations since 1913 and who has passed the competitive Civil Service examination set to fill the position at the head of the list.

Dr. Leonard P. Ayres of the Russell Sage Foundation has been elected Vice President of the Cleveland Trust Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Ayres gives up his work as Director of the Department of Education and the Department of Statistics of which he has been in charge since the establishment of the Russell Sage Foundation.

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#### NEW MEMBERS ELECTED SINCE SEPTEMBER 1

- Axe, Emerson W., 195 Broadway, New York City. Statistical Department, American Tel. & Tel. Co.
- Benton, Carroll, 195 Broadway, New York City. Statistical Department, American Tel. & Tel. Co.
- Berridge, William A., Committee on Economic Research, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
- Coe, Richard S., 195 Broadway, New York City. Statistical Department, American Tel. & Tel. Co.
- Cogswell, Clarence N., Nat'l Aniline & Chemical Co., 21 Burling Slip, New York. Manager, Sales Research Department.